

MINUTES

**STEGER SCHOOL DISTRICT 194
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Thursday, December 14, 2023
6:00 P.M.
Steger Primary Center**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President Helsel. Members present Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Butkus, Hutchison, and Garcia. Members absent: None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A parent with four children in the district spoke about concerns regarding dress code, books in the library, and You Tube being used in the classroom at Columbia Central School. The Board of Education and teachers spoke in public participation about each item.

Village of Steger Trustee Steve Thurmond gave updates regarding the infrastructure, BP Gas Station, accepted bid for the water tower, bids going out for drain projects, completed 14 out of 18 road projects paid by the state, and to remind everyone to come to the village board meeting.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mrs. Edwards to approve the following items under Minutes:

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| ACTION | A. | Approval of the minutes of the November 15, 2023, Board Meeting and Closed Session. |
| ACTION | B. | Approval of the minutes of the December 6, 2023, Board Meeting and Closed Session. |
| ACTION | C. | The Superintendent recommends the board review the minutes from the May 17, 2023, Closed Session meeting and they be kept closed. |
| ACTION | D. | The Superintendent recommends the board approve the destruction of the recordings from the May 19, 2022, May 31, 2022, and June 7, 2022, Closed Session meetings. |

Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Butkus, Hutchison, and Garcia.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

A motion was made by Ms. Butkus and seconded by Mr. Hutchison to approve the following item under Financial Accounts:

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| ACTION | E. | Payment of Bills - Approval of December |
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Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Butkus, Hutchison, and Garcia.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

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| INFO | A. | Acting Interim Superintendent Report, Dr. Patricia Hahto |
| | a. | Dr. Hahto spoke about a mid-year update. |
| | a. | Happy with the structure of the district and pushing forward with student learning. |
| | b. | Cardinal Crew meeting for parents scheduled for January. |
| | i. | Dr. Hahto will be reaching out to parents that signed up at registration. |

BOARD MATTERS (Consent Agenda)

A motion was made by Mrs. Raymond and seconded by Mrs. Edwards to approve the following under Board Matters:

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| INFO | A. | Levy Presentation by Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, Eric Diehl. |
| INFO | B. | ESSER 3 Presentation by Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Jan Lenci. |
| ACTION | C. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2023 Tax Levy as presented. |
| ACTION | D. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the contracts with Pro Care Therapy/Blazer Works, as presented for the following positions for the 2023-2024 school year.
Registered Nurse Sylvia Adams Columbia Central School
Special Education Teacher Nicole Worthy Temple Steger Intermediate Center |
| ACTION | E. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the IASB contract to Facilitate the Stakeholder Group with Superintendent Finalists as presented. |

Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Butkus, Hutchison, and Garcia.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL (Consent Agenda)

A motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mrs. Garcia to approve the following action items under Personnel:

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| ACTION | A. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resignation of Dr. David T. Frusher, Superintendent of Schools, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. |
| ACTION | B. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resignation of Shayna Ebert, Certified Nurse Assistant at Steger Intermediate Center, effective December 22, 2023. |
| ACTION | C. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Penny Gale, Paraprofessional at Steger Primary Center, \$15.00 an hour, effective for the 2023-2024 school year. |
| ACTION | D. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Bianca Brucato, Paraprofessional at Columbia Central School, \$15.00 an hour, effective for the 2023-2024 school year. |
| ACTION | E. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Kathleen Dining, Food Service Cook at Columbia Central School, \$15.00 an hour, effective for the 2023-2024 school year. |
| ACTION | F. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the FMLA leave for Lynn Husmann, Second Grade Teacher at Steger Intermediate Center, effective January 4, 2024, through February 15, 2024. |
| ACTION | G. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the FMLA leave for Janet Inglese, Principal at Steger Intermediate Center, effective January 8, 2024, through April 1, 2024. |
| ACTION | H. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the FMLA leave for Renata Meyer, Food Service Staff at Steger Intermediate Center, effective January 14, 2024, through March 11, 2024. |
| ACTION | I. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the FMLA leave for Sandy Castro, Building Secretary at Steger Primary Center, effective November 27, 2023, through December 19, 2023. |

Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Butkus, Hutchison, and Garcia.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. New Business
 - a. Mrs. Raymond thanked everyone for the great Senior Dinner. The seniors loved the dinner, band, Mr. Aguirre serving food, all of Megan’s hard work and to everyone that helped with the evening.
 - b. Ernie Lopez from Republic Services stopped by to drop off gift certificates for hams and turkeys for some of our families.
- B. Old Business
- C. Correspondence
 - a. Thank you from Alice Cate.
- D. Cardinal Crew
- E. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request
 - a. November 16, 2023, Science of Reading Illinois, Katharine Casey, Ed.
 - 1. Public records related to the literacy curriculum used within SD 194.
 - b. November 20, 2023, SmartProcure, Rexal Alzona
 - 1. For any and all purchasing records from 6/30/23 to current.
- F. Committees
 - a. Technology Committee
 - 1. Second internet back-up is working and there has been no internet loss.
- G. Upcoming dates
 - a. December 20 Special board of Education Meeting
 - b. December 22 School Improvement –student dismissal 11 a.m.
 - c. December 25 Christmas Day
 - d. December 25-29 Winter Break – No school
 - e. January 1-5 Winter Break – No school
 - f. January 8 School resumes
 - g. January 15 Martin Luther King Day – No school
 - h. January 18 Board of Education Meeting
 - i. January 24 Progress Reports
 - j. January 26 School Improvement –student dismissal 11 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Open Meeting recessed at 7:03 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mr. Hutchison.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Butkus, Hutchison, and Garcia.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:19 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Butkus and seconded by Mrs. Edwards to go into Closed Session to discuss the following.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Butkus, Hutchison, and Garcia.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

- ACTION**
- A. The Superintendent recommends that the Board go into Closed Session to discuss:
 - 1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline performance, or dismissal of a specific employee of the public body.
 - 2. Student disciplinary matters.
 - 3. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives.
 - 4. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.
 - 5. The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by Steger School District 194.

ACTION B. Motion to adjourn Closed Session.

The Board adjourned Closed Session at 9:47 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Ms. Butkus.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Butkus, Hutchison, and Garcia.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

ACTION C. Motion to return to Open Session.

The Board returned to Open Session at 9:47 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Ms. Butkus.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Butkus, Hutchison, and Garcia.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL (Consent Agenda)

A motion was made by Mrs. Edwards and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to approve the following action items under Personnel:

ACTION A. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the termination of support staff employee #5982 Effective December 14, 2023.

BOARD MATTERS (Consent Agenda)

A motion was made by Mrs. Garcia and seconded by Mrs. Edwards to approve the following action under Board Matters:

**ACTION A. STUDENT DISCIPLINARY ACTION
Student Discipline Case #23-24-02**

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:48 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Edwards and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to adjourn the Meeting.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Butkus, Hutchison, and Garcia.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

Secretary, Board of Education & Date

President, Board of Education & Date